

Below is a brief summary of some of the reasons why the actions of the Chilean Armed Forces on September 11, 1973, were both necessary and justified:

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1. The Allende regime engaged in a protracted effort to weaken, subvert, or destroy the independence and effectiveness of the legislative and judicial branches of government, in violation of the letter and spirit of the Chilean Constitution.
2. The government of Allende managed to bring the Chilean economy to its knees, and bring great suffering to the Chilean people, through the seizure and gross mismanagement of farms and business enterprises, thus causing shortages and severe inflation.
3. The Allende regime permitted the illegal importation of arms from Cuba, and allowed between ten and thirteen thousand Marxist terrorists and common criminals to enter Chile, where many of them proceeded to engage in violent and subversive activities.
4. The Marxist regime had drawn the Chilean Armed Forces into the political arena, while attempting to divide and subvert them. The military takeover forestalled a plan to "behead" (descabezar) the Armed Forces and plunge the country into civil war.
5. The goal of Allende's supporters was the establishment of a Marxist police state subservient to Cuba and the Soviet Union. The Allende government was already deeply involved in supporting leftist revolutionaries in Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and elsewhere in Latin America. The military moved just in time to prevent the nation from being pushed into the abyss.
6. The present military government of Chile permits more freedom than most of the world's governments. Our double standard is such that the highly repressive leftist military government of Peru is uncriticized and still receives military aid from the United States, even though it is the leading South American recipient of Soviet arms.
7. Cutoff of military aid to Chile has led to a very serious imbalance between the forces of anti-Communist Chile and those of Soviet-supplied Peru. As a result, there is a risk of open warfare between these two nations, a situation hardly conducive to regional or world peace.

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